

ALEXANDRIA AD HOC CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, March 31, 2016
Sister Cities Conference Room
City Hall, 301 King St.
6:00 p.m.

Present:

George Foote, Chair
Jennifer Atkins
Al Pierce
Herve Aitken
Randy Sengel
Lynnwood Campbell
Mark Abramson
Deb Roepke (via phone)

Staff:

Jean Kelleher, Director, Human Rights
Joanna Anderson, Deputy City Attorney
Noraine Buttar, Special Assistant, CMO

Excused:

Frank Shafroth

1. Chair Foote called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. The minutes of the March 17 meeting were approved by consensus.
3. Members discussed and revised the pledge and the code of ethics.
4. Members engaged in a discussion about conflicts of interest, and explored the issues surrounding recusals. Members decided to expand the Code of Ethics and Conduct by adding the phrase, "...appointed official will: Not act on a matter in which a conflict of interest exists, and be diligent in avoiding even the appearance of a conflict of interest by disclosing same and acting in accord with the principles underlying this code."
5. Chair Foote, with input from members, will write a transmittal letter, to be included with the pledge and code. The letter will include more information on possible professional development activities. Chair Foote will present the code and pledge at a meeting of City Council on April 12, 2016 where he will report on the Committee's work. Members of the Committee plan to be in attendance.
6. Members discussed various concepts for an ethics officer as a person whom Council could call and ask for advice on ethics issues that go beyond compliance with statutes/laws.

7. After a final round of edits, the committee reached consensus that the code and pledge were complete. The motion to adopt the pledge and code as drafted passed with a unanimous vote.
8. The committee agreed that its work was complete and that it required no further meetings. Members agreed that they would respond to further requests from Council for attention to the committee's work.
9. The committee adopted a resolution of appreciation of Ms. Kelleher, Ms. Buttar, Ms. Roberts, and Ms. Anderson for their support for the committee's work.
10. Upon motion made, seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.